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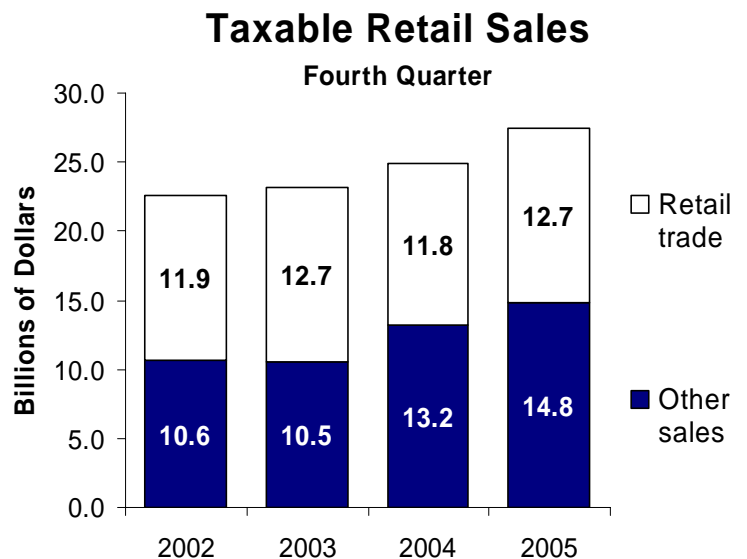
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Taxable Retail Sales Increase 9.9 Percent for Fourth Quarter 2005

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 17, 2006 — Taxable retail sales were 9.9 percent higher for the last three months of 2005 compared to the same period in 2004, the Washington State Department of Revenue reported today.

Taxable retail sales totaled \$27.42 billion during the fourth quarter of 2005, compared to \$24.95 billion for the fourth quarter of 2004. Retail trade was up 7.6 percent to \$12.65 billion. Retail trade tracks sales at retail outlets and excludes such volatile sectors as contracting.

Construction comprised the largest single component of taxable retail sales at 18.4 percent of the total or \$5.05 billion, followed by motor vehicles and parts at 10.2 percent or \$2.79 billion. General merchandise stores comprised 10.1 percent or \$2.77 billion, while accommodations and food services rose 8.5 percent to \$2.34 billion. The fifth-largest category was wholesale trade, which was up 8 percent or \$2.18 billion.



Among the largest counties, King County experienced a 9.5 percent increase in overall taxable retail sales for a total of \$10.88 billion. Snohomish County posted a 16 percent gain to \$2.75 billion. Pierce County was up 10 percent at \$3.01 billion. Spokane County was up 9.2 percent to \$1.8 billion, while Clark County rose 12.8 percent to \$1.25 billion.

Among cities, Seattle's sales climbed 10.9 percent to \$3.89 billion, Bellevue was up 11 percent to \$1.34 billion, Tacoma rose 11.1 percent to \$1.14 billion; Spokane increased 8.8 percent to \$958.9 million, Vancouver climbed 15 percent to \$695.3 million, and Everett jumped 20.9 percent to \$681.4 million.

Complete results for all counties and selected cities, including breakdowns of sales by industry sector, are available online. Go to <http://dor.wa.gov/content/statistics/2005/qbr405/default.aspx>.

Visitors also can obtain figures for all cities using a query system at <http://dor.wa.gov/content/statistics/TID/StatisticsReports.aspx?Query=QBR>.

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TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY COUNTY

	All Taxable Retail Sales*			Retail Trade Only**		
	4th Quarter 04	4th Quarter 05	Change	4th Quarter 04	4th Quarter 05	Change
Adams	\$40,492,873	\$36,806,891	-9.1%	\$14,767,280	\$14,749,609	-0.1%
Asotin	\$41,230,400	\$42,887,801	4.0%	\$21,167,982	\$21,215,966	0.2%
Benton	\$572,161,629	\$583,415,160	2.0%	\$308,774,015	\$320,973,452	4.0%
Chelan	\$302,051,438	\$322,656,764	6.8%	\$141,692,803	\$153,041,778	8.0%
Clallam	\$244,113,629	\$249,874,598	2.4%	\$111,506,561	\$122,708,641	10.0%
Clark	\$1,111,670,358	\$1,254,442,352	12.8%	\$489,861,949	\$541,892,355	10.6%
Columbia	\$8,326,277	\$8,326,362	0.0%	\$2,151,159	\$2,361,674	9.8%
Cowlitz	\$298,212,602	\$326,496,512	9.5%	\$150,080,922	\$171,352,083	14.2%
Douglas	\$94,136,002	\$100,427,889	6.7%	\$54,345,023	\$57,228,338	5.3%
Ferry	\$8,809,269	\$9,121,600	3.5%	\$3,117,212	\$3,283,974	5.3%
Franklin	\$204,965,111	\$202,238,825	-1.3%	\$84,871,757	\$78,358,734	-7.7%
Garfield	\$4,035,021	\$5,700,303	41.3%	\$1,839,008	\$2,125,704	15.6%
Grant	\$201,446,502	\$226,818,855	12.6%	\$94,969,338	\$99,987,190	5.3%
Grays Harbor	\$182,362,975	\$208,612,047	14.4%	\$92,889,145	\$98,931,530	6.5%
Island	\$185,148,292	\$203,923,752	10.1%	\$76,064,096	\$84,214,115	10.7%
Jefferson	\$86,030,129	\$95,186,547	10.6%	\$28,145,913	\$30,497,611	8.4%
King	\$9,939,385,341	\$10,882,650,496	9.5%	\$4,255,619,337	\$4,570,539,226	7.4%
Kitsap	\$791,525,381	\$868,731,873	9.8%	\$445,150,504	\$470,135,125	5.6%
Kittitas	\$145,534,515	\$165,141,307	13.5%	\$51,789,068	\$57,608,856	11.2%
Klickitat	\$35,223,123	\$32,619,007	-7.4%	\$8,299,255	\$9,231,323	11.2%
Lewis	\$231,479,449	\$267,433,641	15.5%	\$112,408,797	\$124,536,105	10.8%
Lincoln	\$17,904,082	\$17,266,326	-3.6%	\$6,418,025	\$5,931,099	-7.6%
Mason	\$109,908,822	\$123,672,883	12.5%	\$50,128,441	\$56,202,906	12.1%
Okanagan	\$92,264,235	\$106,637,152	15.6%	\$46,060,001	\$50,289,772	9.2%
Pacific	\$40,023,495	\$47,737,580	19.3%	\$12,807,005	\$14,134,143	10.4%
Pend Oreille	\$19,031,559	\$25,424,677	33.6%	\$6,136,593	\$6,304,128	2.7%
Pierce	\$2,739,965,895	\$3,014,667,711	10.0%	\$1,409,778,340	\$1,511,459,891	7.2%
San Juan	\$73,290,693	\$81,608,437	11.3%	\$19,215,390	\$22,085,611	14.9%
Skagit	\$533,251,972	\$577,640,373	8.3%	\$307,107,718	\$324,311,047	5.6%
Skamania	\$21,328,571	\$19,777,771	-7.3%	\$3,743,075	\$3,404,234	-9.1%
Snohomish	\$2,369,681,091	\$2,747,947,563	16.0%	\$1,225,826,010	\$1,375,955,486	12.2%
Spokane	\$1,645,953,402	\$1,797,084,218	9.2%	\$863,182,255	\$917,935,638	6.3%
Stevens	\$74,728,521	\$84,263,342	12.8%	\$37,413,328	\$44,073,263	17.8%
Thurston	\$870,787,130	\$967,515,542	11.1%	\$439,737,481	\$476,355,889	8.3%
Wahkiakum	\$5,539,167	\$5,551,989	0.2%	\$1,285,109	\$1,287,254	0.2%
Walla Walla	\$155,392,907	\$172,726,976	11.2%	\$67,862,526	\$72,054,332	6.2%
Whatcom	\$704,415,622	\$780,274,890	10.8%	\$346,316,783	\$373,212,943	7.8%
Whitman	\$102,829,255	\$90,603,932	-11.9%	\$31,198,169	\$32,613,483	4.5%
Yakima	\$648,670,056	\$664,343,030	2.4%	\$325,165,134	\$324,985,363	-0.1%
TOTALS	\$24,953,306,791	\$27,418,256,974	9.9%	\$11,748,892,507	\$12,647,569,871	7.6%

*All taxable retail sales includes retailing, services, contracting (construction), manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesaling, finance, insurance, real estate and others. Sales taxes from contracting can be highly volatile.

**Retail Trade includes taxable sales of building materials and hardware, general merchandise, food, auto dealers, apparel, furnishings, and miscellaneous retail stores. This figure better represents consumer purchases.

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY SELECTED CITIES

	All Taxable Retail Sales*			Retail Trade Only**		
	4th Quarter 04	4th Quarter 05	Change	4th Quarter 04	4th Quarter 05	Change
Aberdeen	93,714,198	111,639,949	19.1%	65,086,979	68,380,718	5.1%
Auburn	413,477,409	445,095,635	7.6%	213,724,414	227,706,822	6.5%
Bellevue	1,206,788,912	1,339,905,347	11.0%	643,091,936	696,202,110	8.3%
Bellingham	482,501,181	526,041,081	9.0%	279,666,210	300,397,639	7.4%
Bremerton	167,306,612	171,055,475	2.2%	94,227,767	92,655,679	-1.7%
Camas	34,316,236	46,665,536	36.0%	10,100,477	11,858,010	17.4%
Centralia	62,211,950	63,197,525	1.6%	30,066,664	29,688,137	-1.3%
Chehalis	92,810,885	106,428,653	14.7%	62,207,727	70,254,045	12.9%
Colville	40,606,268	45,796,686	12.8%	26,592,020	31,592,325	18.8%
Des Moines	49,470,822	49,112,982	-0.7%	14,686,142	15,002,703	2.2%
Edmonds	137,636,977	152,244,721	10.6%	68,412,884	75,170,346	9.9%
Ellensburg	86,638,628	94,629,841	9.2%	40,249,496	43,668,356	8.5%
Everett	563,603,119	681,405,373	20.9%	290,670,809	314,110,993	8.1%
Federal Way	325,809,404	364,845,242	12.0%	187,041,504	194,546,957	4.0%
Fife	194,191,801	217,315,309	11.9%	131,834,121	137,835,880	4.6%
Issaquah	289,994,775	311,838,582	7.5%	154,283,520	165,535,328	7.3%
Kelso	61,341,443	58,642,975	-4.4%	35,188,838	37,188,315	5.7%
Kennewick	343,895,757	349,971,562	1.8%	217,173,788	226,319,847	4.2%
Kent	605,807,791	627,090,910	3.5%	259,167,716	275,138,590	6.2%
Kirkland	379,651,627	464,591,872	22.4%	199,681,591	206,146,357	3.2%
Lacey	173,583,917	214,781,426	23.7%	94,160,147	108,858,613	15.6%
Longview	156,917,531	180,033,198	14.7%	89,066,436	102,626,815	15.2%
Lynnwood	561,260,097	565,792,414	0.8%	382,830,519	405,306,015	5.9%
Marysville	122,711,274	138,624,188	13.0%	58,281,295	61,500,819	5.5%
Mercer Island	72,101,928	78,566,013	9.0%	12,313,897	14,147,708	14.9%
Moses Lake	105,933,441	113,384,164	7.0%	59,636,282	62,953,137	5.6%
Mount Vernon	132,721,997	157,083,732	18.4%	70,138,535	87,087,990	24.2%
Mountlake Terrac	39,375,152	43,877,507	11.4%	14,940,250	16,009,387	7.2%
Oak Harbor	83,559,252	85,836,437	2.7%	44,201,388	48,716,365	10.2%
Olympia	439,102,291	464,412,382	5.8%	251,513,558	265,084,809	5.4%
Omak	30,325,265	34,639,069	14.2%	22,226,034	23,910,312	7.6%
Pasco	185,984,522	184,056,241	-1.0%	81,377,670	74,391,129	-8.6%
Port Angeles	86,735,224	87,121,701	0.4%	35,966,603	37,922,428	5.4%
Port Townsend	39,974,593	45,411,480	13.6%	15,843,286	16,332,577	3.1%
Pullman	77,049,637	67,408,915	-12.5%	23,064,351	24,504,577	6.2%
Puyallup	432,204,989	460,328,759	6.5%	294,513,739	317,789,552	7.9%
Redmond	457,403,965	523,746,405	14.5%	187,436,568	196,444,680	4.8%
Renton	479,798,339	506,181,979	5.5%	270,470,975	280,970,194	3.9%
Richland	166,155,172	179,054,686	7.8%	77,486,260	78,661,564	1.5%
SeaTac	222,886,433	199,621,611	-10.4%	14,879,452	20,843,238	40.1%
Seattle	3,509,916,666	3,892,589,734	10.9%	1,238,503,429	1,359,801,490	9.8%
Shelton	49,931,582	51,419,600	3.0%	28,715,519	30,462,114	6.1%
Spokane	881,167,136	958,935,554	8.8%	453,209,494	483,277,178	6.6%
Sunnyside	58,891,797	59,123,682	0.4%	34,226,735	31,732,017	-7.3%
Tacoma	1,030,011,376	1,144,547,597	11.1%	526,421,956	566,421,835	7.6%
Tukwila	507,980,465	541,951,905	6.7%	336,379,058	333,059,392	-1.0%
Vancouver	604,798,360	695,274,941	15.0%	283,157,923	320,896,445	13.3%
Walla Walla	115,915,206	127,007,085	9.6%	50,071,328	52,030,118	3.9%
Wenatchee	184,133,188	192,303,403	4.4%	99,102,706	109,474,520	10.5%
Yakima	353,302,290	356,242,073	0.8%	183,049,492	182,936,976	-0.1%

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